and coordinate the issues concerning major steel investments in the country related to infrastructure, raw material supply, environmental clearance and other resource constraints.

(vii) The steel production capacity in the country is estimated to be 124.06 million tonnes by the year 2011-12. The break up of estimated capacity in respect of major steel producers is given below:—

(In million tonnes)

Investor	Existing Capacity	Expansion Plan		Total Capacity 2011-12 (Most Likely)
		Brownfield	Greenfield	
Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL)	12.84	12.00	-	24.84
Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (RINL)	2.90	3.90	-	6.80
Tata Steel	5.00	5.00	3.00	13.00
Essar Steel Holdings Ltd.	4.60	3.90	6.00	14.50
JSW Steel Ltd.	4.10	6.90	-	11.00
Jindal Power & Steel Ltd.	1.20	4.80	4.45	10.45
Ispat Industries Ltd.	3.00	2.00	-	5.00
Other & Secondary Steel	23.20	2.00	13.27	38.47
TOTAL:	56.84	40.50	26.72	124.06

Sale of gender identification kits

*228. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN:
SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that gender identification kits are available for sale by a US based company through a website; and

(b) if so, the steps Government is contemplating either to ban the website in the country or regulate its sale in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) and (b) The declining sex ratio is a matter of great concern and calls for concerted action from all quarters. In order to contain the menace of female foeticide and ushering in a healthy sex ratio in the Country, the Central Government enacted the Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques Act, 1994. The Act, *inter alia*, provides for stringent action against individuals and genetic laboratories/clinics offering sex determination services. Similar penalty provision also exists for those who seek such services.

2. Various mechanisms have been evolved at the national, State and district levels to ensure strict compliance of the provisions of the Act by all stake holders through periodic inspection and monitoring.

3. The advent of internet e-communication has emerged as a new threat in this regard. It has been reported that some of the overseas agencies are freely posting advertisements pertaining to sex determination services and wares. For instance, web sites like the 'www.GenSelect.com; www.4-gender-selection.com, *www.pregnancystore.com*, etc., are offering sex determination kits called the'baby Gender Mentor Home DNA Test Kit', that

help the buyer determine the sex of the foetus through DNA analysis at home.

4. The matter was referred to the Ministry of Communications and IT to block the offending websites. But, that Ministry expressed the view that such an action did not render the promoters of such sites completely ineffective as they could re-emerge and be available for the viewers again under a new nomenclature and in a new avatar.

5. To identify the people involved, the issue was then taken up with the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, to trap the people importing the sex determination kits pandered by the offending overseas websites into the Country.

6. The Ministry of Health requested the Customs Department for details of the individuals or organisations who have imported the sex determination (Gender Testing)kits from abroad to facilitate the Government to proceed further against such people under Section 23 (3) of the PC & PNDT Act and also to intercept and not release such articles under Sub-Section (2) (k), (u) and (v) of Section 11 under Chapter IV of the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962), *vide* the Government's letter dated 29.11.2007 and 5.1.2008.

7. In response to the Government's above request, the Customs Department have suitably alerted their field formations not to release the imported Gender Testing Kits and to take appropriate action under the Customs Act .

Disabilities due to alcohol consumption

*229. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that consumption of alcohol is ruining the health of millions of young people in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether alcoholism is creating host of diseases and disabilities in people;

(d) whether Government proposes to take some tough decisions to check alcoholism in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) to (e) The Government is cognizant of the fact that consumption of alcohol in excessive amounts can lead to social, economic and health related problems. A study conduced by NIMHANS for WHO published in the year 2006 shows that nearly 30% of adult men and less than 5% of women consume alcohol giving a male to female ratio of 6:1. Alcohol use is higher in poor communities. The average age of initiation has reduced from 28 years during the 80s to 20 years in recent years.

Alcoholism could lead to liver disease and brain damage, gastro intestinal diseases, peptic ulcer, pancreatic diseases, nervous system related diseases, alcoholic dementia, alcoholic memory loss, peripheral nerve damage, muscle damage, cancer of several body organs, hypertension and coronary heart diseases etc. Besides severe health problems, accidents also take place resulting in head injuries and hospitalizations.